REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the instant application be reconsidered in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 27 and 41 have been amended.

No Claims have been deleted.

No New Claims have been added.

Claim Objections

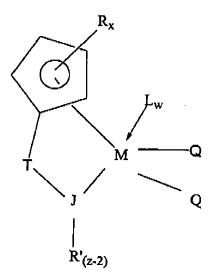
Claim 27 has been amended consistent with Examiner's suggestion to remove the obvious typographical errors in which the parameter "y" is recited. Claim 27 is now allowable. Accordingly, Claims 41 and 44-47, which depend from Claim 27, are also allowable.

Claim Rejections Under Double Patenting

Claim 41 has been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 27-32 of the related copending Application No. 07/973,261.

Claim 41 has been amended to depend from allowable Claim 27 to further clarify the structure of the recited compound.

An obvious type double patenting rejection is appropriate only where analysis compels a conclusion that the invention defined in the claim in issue is an obvious variation of the invention defined in a claim in the other application. However, as Examiner admits, the compound recited in Claim 27, from which Claims 41, and 44-47 depend, does not include a bridge. Claims 27-32 of copending Application No. 07/973,261 recite a bridged compound of the general formula:



wherein T is a covalent bridging group containing a Group IV A or V A element.

Since Applicants recite a non-bridged compound, Claim 41 cannot be found obvious over the subject matter of the copending application. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections and objections to the claims be removed, and the claims, as amended be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan 5, 2000

Catherine L. Bell Registration No. 35,444 Attorney for Applicant

ExxonMobil Chemical Company Law Technology Department P.O. Box 2149 Baytown, Texas 77522-2149 Telephone No. 281/834-5982 Facsimile No. 281/834-2495